

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~The present invention recognizes that existing distraction devices have certain disadvantages, including the requirement to remove materials in the distraction device from the subjects body after distraction is completed. Depending on the location of distraction, this procedure can be of varying degrees of undesirability.~~ One aspect of the present invention is a connective tissue distraction device comprising: a first transmitting ~~means~~ structure for transmitting force to a first tissue region and a second transmitting ~~means~~ structure for transmitting force to a second tissue region by contact with bone, ~~and an expansion means device~~ for exerting force distracting ~~said the~~ the first transmitting ~~means~~ structure from ~~said the~~ the second transmitting ~~means~~, structure. ~~wherein at~~ At least one of ~~said the~~ the first transmitting ~~means~~ device, ~~said the~~ the second transmitting ~~means~~ device and ~~said the~~ the expansion ~~means~~ structure comprises in whole or in part a biodegradable, bioerodible or bioresorbable material.